

KLAUS J. BACH & ASSOCIATES
PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
4407 TWIN OAKS DRIVE
MURRYSVILLE, PA 15668 USA

TEL: 724-327-0664
FAX: 724-327-0004

Case WM 148

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Gerald Hahn et al

Title: VEHICLE ROOF WHICH IS MOVABLE BETWEEN A CLOSED POSITION
AND A STORAGE POSITION

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 19, 2004

SIR:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - SECTION 1.97(b)

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, applicants' representative hereby submits US Patent & Trademark Office Form PTO-1449. Copies of the references cited therein are submitted for consideration in the examination of the above-referenced patent application. It is respectfully requested that they be made of record, along with whatever references the Examiner may find in the course of a search, should the Examiner consider them material to the subject application.

The references have been cited in the international Search Report. They were all marked "A" by the Examiner as relating only to background information.

The references do not disclose that in a vehicle roof which is movable between a closed position and a storage position in a rear storage compartment of a vehicle comprising a rear cover which is pivotally supported such that it can be raised at the rear end thereof from a closed position, in which it covers the storage compartment, to a loading position, in which the rear end of the rear cover is raised, the vehicle roof stored in the rear storage compartment can be raised independently of the rear cover and can be

locked with the rear cover in the raised position, in which access to the rear trunk is facilitated.

This Statement is hereby submitted under Section 1.97(b) since it is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted



Klaus J. Bach
Reg. No.: 26832
Cust. No.: 27956

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.